



Blaydon Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1967

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Norman Ward Ltd., Low Fell.

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Telephone:
Blaydon 2822

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
BLAYDON-ON-TYNE.

July 1968.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Blaydon Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1967.

The year shows a natural population increase of 232, with an estimated population increase of 270.

There has been a small decrease in the number of births and correspondingly in the birth rate relative to last year, the latter remaining higher than for Durham County although now lower than for England and Wales as a whole, all three birth rates showing a decrease. Similarly, the number of deaths and the death rate for the District have both decreased and the latter remains lower than for the County and the Country as a whole, both of whose rates have also decreased. No deaths arose from pregnancy or other maternal causes.

Once again, cardio-vascular disease accounted for the greatest number of deaths, 157 out of a total of 307; 68 people died as a result of malignant diseases compared with 75 in 1966.

The total number of notified infectious diseases showed a considerable increase due to the biennial increase in the number of cases of measles and an outbreak of dysentery in the last two months of the year mainly confined to residents and school children from the Rowlands Gill Ward. Further comment on this is made in the text of the Report. Two deaths from respiratory tuberculosis occurred; eleven cases were notified as recovered and their names removed from the Register. Thirteen new cases of tuberculosis were notified as arising in the District leaving the total number of cases on the Register at the end of the year at 96 as compared with 98 at the end of 1966. Tables 'A' to 'E' on pages 30 and 32 give fuller details. No cases of diphtheria, smallpox or typhoid have been notified since 1954 and the last case of poliomyelitis occurred in 1959.

As detailed in Section III of this Report, immunisation programmes continued to be pursued vigorously, with prophylaxis against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, smallpox and tuberculosis. The same Section contains details of the operations in the District of the Blood Donor Panel and the Mobile X-ray Unit.

Health Education has been continued through the medium of Health Visitors and other nursing personnel; and by the distribution by the Health Department of posters and pamphlets, particularly in relation to the supply of posters to food premises and also to food handlers, who are now much more conscious of their responsibilities. The standard of food premises has been shown, by inspections, to be satisfactory and no particular problems arose during the year. Some details of County Health Education work are given in the appropriate Section of the Report.

The good work of the County Council in the provision of residential accommodation under the National Assistance Act continued, the three hostels in the No. 1 Health Area being used to capacity.

I would record, with appreciation, the enthusiastic and practical support this Council has given to all welfare activities, also the untiring and unselfish efforts of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, the Old People's Welfare Committee and other voluntary bodies. Thanks are due to Gardner Merchant (Caterers) Ltd., who, through their canteen at Churchill Gear Machines, Ltd., supplied all meals required for the Meals on Wheels Service. Expansion to 42 recipients of meals fulfilled the anticipations of my previous Report.

Family Case Conferences and Local Co-ordinating Committees meetings were held at regular intervals. Three families from Blaydon District were still receiving consideration by the former organisation at the end of the year, much good work having been done during this period.

No complaint arose regarding the physical and bacteriological quality of the water supplied by the two Water Undertakings. The supply was continuous and plentiful.

It is pleasing to note that new housing development by the Council showed a marked increase in the number of houses provided during the year, 201 houses being erected and occupied as compared with 92 the previous year. This acceleration in house building enabled the Council to expedite re-housing of occupants from unfit properties and clearance of these sites.

The Council has continued to implement Government policy by encouraging landlords and owner-occupiers, whose dwellings qualify for Improvement Grants under the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, to take advantage of this sound and secure method of improving housing conditions. The increasing number of applications received for grant aid towards the cost of house improvements reflects the wide publicity that the Council has given to the Scheme.

The Council's policy of replacing outdated refuse collection vehicles is to be implemented further, early in 1968, by the proposed introduction into this Service of an additional 35 cu. yd. refuse collection vehicle of modern design. It is anticipated that this will add greatly to the efficiency of the Service. The paper sack system of refuse collection, with its attendant benefits, has been further extended by the provision of sack-holders for all newly built Council houses. Once again, no serious problems with regard to refuse collection arose and the work was carried out regularly and, on the whole, satisfactorily.

Considerable incidence of indiscriminate depositing of refuse on road verges, derelict land and open spaces, continued. In an effort to prevent this undesirable practice, the Council provided, as a rate-borne service, facilities for the collection of bulky household refuse and extraordinary domestic rubbish.

Routine inspections were carried out of all premises to which the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 applied. While no major infringements of the Act were found, it was necessary to serve notices in respect of a number of premises. These mainly concerned minor breaches of the law and the occupiers in all cases gave their assurance that remedial measures would be taken promptly. I am pleased to report that the occupiers continued to receive your inspectors courteously and, for the most part, were co-operative in implementing suggestions for improvements for the safety, health and welfare of their employees.

Good progress in sanitary and health measures was achieved. I would thank members of the Health Committee and the Council for their co-operation and understanding; this has helped greatly in my own task and made the Department's efforts the more rewarding. Again, the willing co-operation, when required, of the staff of other Departments of the Council was greatly appreciated.

Health Department staff have continued their high standard of work and my thanks are due to all members of the Department for the good work carried out.

Two new appointments were made during the year to fill staff vacancies. Mr. Robert Gray was appointed as Additional Public Health Inspector and his valuable services have provided a long-felt want. Miss Hazel Barker took up her post as Junior Health Clerk and has been of increasingly great assistance. We welcome both to the staff.

The Area Health Clerk, Mrs. Martin, has carried out her duties to the community in her usual efficient manner, her relationship with the public in connection with Personal Health Services having been excellent. I am indebted to her for the collection and compilation of the detailed material in this Report relating to such Services and her assistance has been much appreciated.

My thanks go to all voluntary bodies and Organisations outside of Local Government who have done so much for the community and have collaborated so willingly in supplying me with information regarding their activities.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. DRYDEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

I. SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

Part of the northern boundary is the River Tyne from Derwent Haughs to Stella Haughs which is also the boundary between the counties of Durham and Northumberland. From Stella to where it joins Stanley Burn at the north-west extremity of the District, the boundary follows the line of Blaydon, Barlow and Coal Burns and separates Blaydon and Ryton Urban Districts.

The western boundary is formed by the Red, Clinty and Milkwell Burns. This is partly the County boundary and where this District adjoins Prudhoe Urban, Hexham Rural and Consett Urban Districts.

The south and south-east boundary is the River Derwent which enters the River Tyne east of Blaydon at Derwent Haughs.

ELECTORAL DIVISIONS AND WARDS.

The District comprises three County Electoral Divisions and four Wards as detailed below:

- (a) Blaydon East: The Blaydon Ward of the Urban District.
- (b) Blaydon Central: The Winlaton Ward of the Urban District.
- (c) Blaydon West: The Chopwell Ward and the Rowlands Gill and High Spen Ward of the Urban District.

(a) Blaydon East Division.

Blaydon Ward—is situated on the south bank of the River Tyne and is both residential and industrial. Industrial development is still taking place on the land lying between Shibdon Road and the River Tyne through the further expansion of existing industries and by the opening of a new industrial project. This land is scheduled on the Town Map for industrial purposes. Better progress with the proposed Blaydon Central Area Development Scheme has been made this year. Additionally, a land drainage scheme for the reclamation of parkland to beautify the Ward has been started.

The new Scotswood Bridge was completed and was opened for traffic on the 20th March.

Estimated population: 8,028.

(b) Blaydon Central Division.

Winlaton Ward—is situated to the south of Blaydon at a height of 300 ft. and is preponderantly residential. Concentrated housing development, both by private enterprise and the Council has taken place. New plans have been prepared in respect of shopping development in the Ward. The population is employed mostly outside the Ward in engineering, in mining and on railways on industrial Tyneside.

Estimated population: 10,519.

(c) **Blaydon West Division.**

Chopwell Ward—is mostly agricultural and forestry. Considerable work has been carried out in the Chopwell Park where better facilities for many types of sport have been provided and the Park itself has been further beautified by the planting of flowers, trees and shrubs. The bulk of the population is mainly concentrated in Chopwell and Blackhall Mill. Many former workmen in the mining industry have now had to find employment outside the Ward in nearby industrial undertakings or further afield.

Estimated population: 5,296.

Rowlands Gill and High Spen Ward—is centrally situated in the District, is semi-rural in character and is essentially residential. Housing and industrial development has continued in the Rowlands Gill area. Extensive progress has been made on the new Derwent Park including work on a new Caravan Site for 100 caravans, a parkland car park and extensive planting of trees. The newly built library in Rowlands Gill was opened during Spring. The landscape at High Spen has been made more attractive by the removal of the unsightly pit heap previously there. There was no development to report in High Spen. Most of the population find employment in industries outside the Ward.

Estimated Population: 8,037.

II.

STATISTICS

General.

Acreage: 9,325.

Number of inhabited houses:

Council 4,285 Other 6,626 Total 10,911.

Number of Other Premises: 2,162.

Rateable Value: £850,141.

Vital.

Population: 1931—32,248.

1951—30,791.

1967—31,880.

Density of persons per house: 2,919.

Births: Comparability Factor: 0.98.

Live Births:

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number	272	267	539
Rate (per 1,000 population):	<i>Crude</i>	<i>C.F.</i>	<i>Adjusted</i>
Blaydon Urban District	16.19		16.57
Durham County	16.04		15.87
England and Wales	17.19		

Illegitimate Live Births:

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number	15	9	24
Percentage of total live births: 4.45.			

Still Births:

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number	4	4	8
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births: 14.62			
Total Live and Still Births: 547.			

Deaths: Comparability Factor: 1.18.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number	186	121	307
Rate (per 1,000 population):	<i>Crude</i>	<i>C.F.</i>	<i>Adjusted</i>
Blaydon Urban District	9.63		11.36
Durham County	10.34		12.20
England and Wales	11.21		

The commonest causes of death during 1967 were:

Coronary Disease, Angina	79
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	37
Malignant Neoplasms at Defined Sites	36
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	31 (+1)
Respiratory Diseases	27
Other Heart Diseases	23 (+1)
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	23

Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year):

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number	5	5	10
Mortality Rates (total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births):			
Blaydon Urban District			18.55
Durham County			20.70
England and Wales			18.30

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	19.42
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Neo-Natal Mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	12.99
Early Neo-Natal Mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	11.13
Perinatal Mortality (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	25.59

Causes of Infant Deaths:

Prematurity	4
Congenital Heart Disease	2
Accidental	1
Cardiac Failure	1
Pneumonia	1
Respiratory Distress Syndrome	1

Maternal Mortality (including abortion):

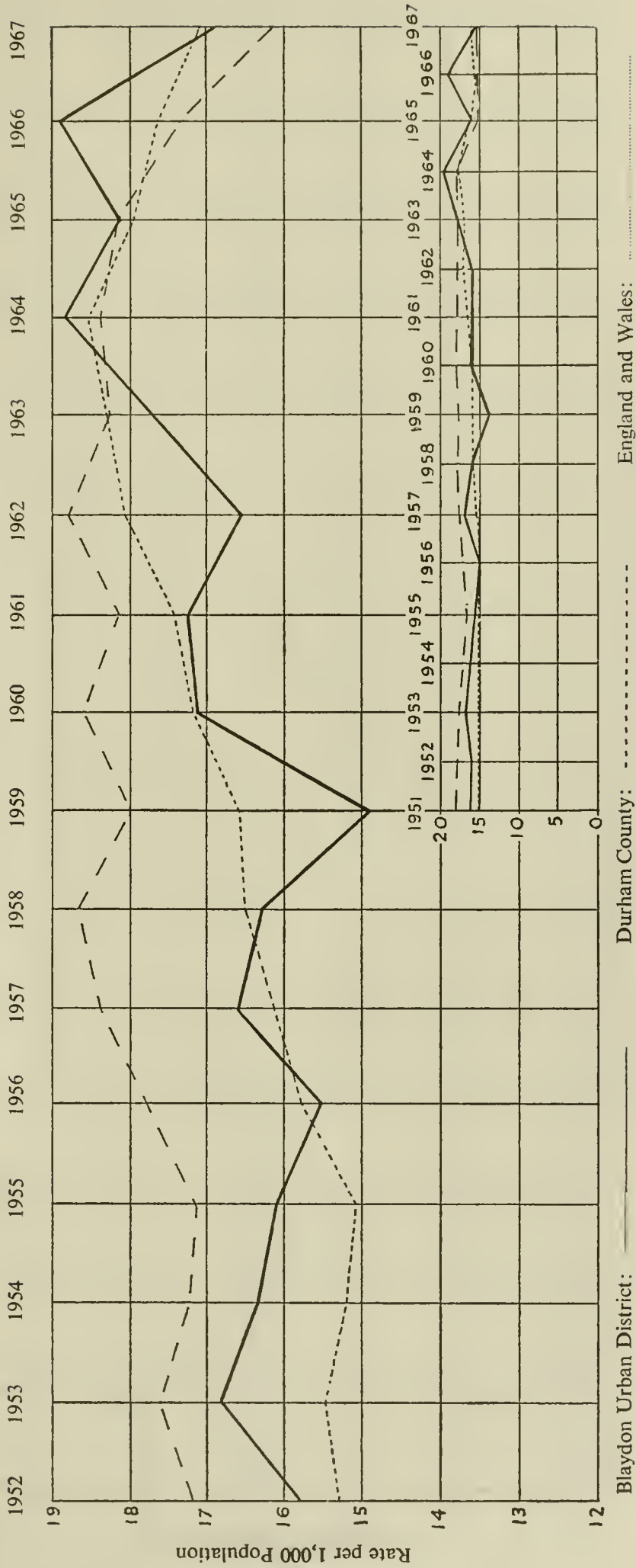
Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	0.00

The natural population increase for the year, i.e. the excess of births over deaths, was 232.

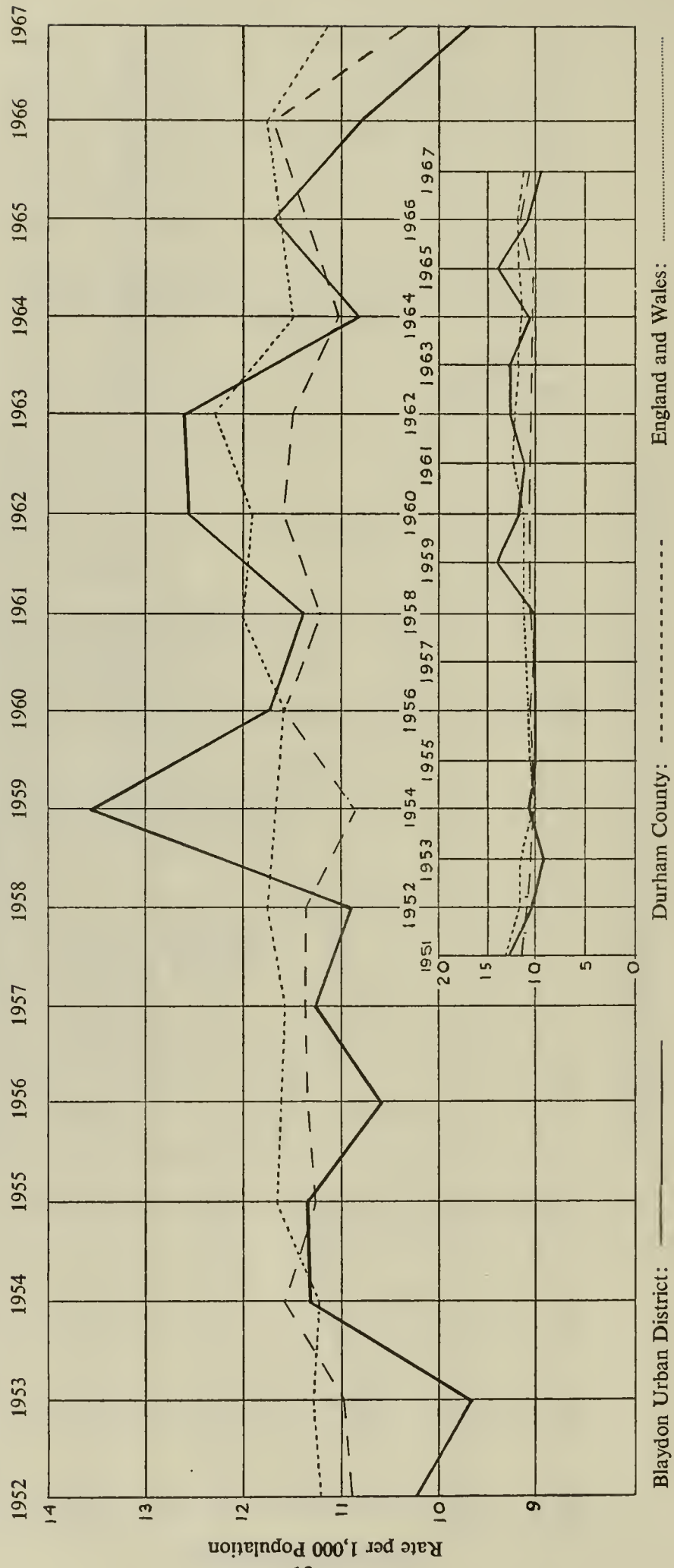
**The Registrar General's Short List of Causes of Death
during 1967**

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	2	—	2
2. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	5	7	12
11. Malignant Neoplasm—Lung and Bronchus	18	4	22
12. Malignant Neoplasm—Breast	—	2	2
13. Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus	—	—	—
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	17	14	31
15. Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	1	—	1
16. Diabetes	—	2	2
17. Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	20	17	37
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	51	28	79
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	1	1
20. Other Heart Diseases	12	11	23
21. Other Circulatory Diseases	9	8	17
22. Influenza	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia	4	4	8
24. Bronchitis	19	—	19
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	5	1	6
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	—	—
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital Malformations	2	4	6
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	9	14	23
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1	4
34. All Other Accidents	7	2	9
35. Suicide	1	—	1
36. Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—
Totals	186	121	307

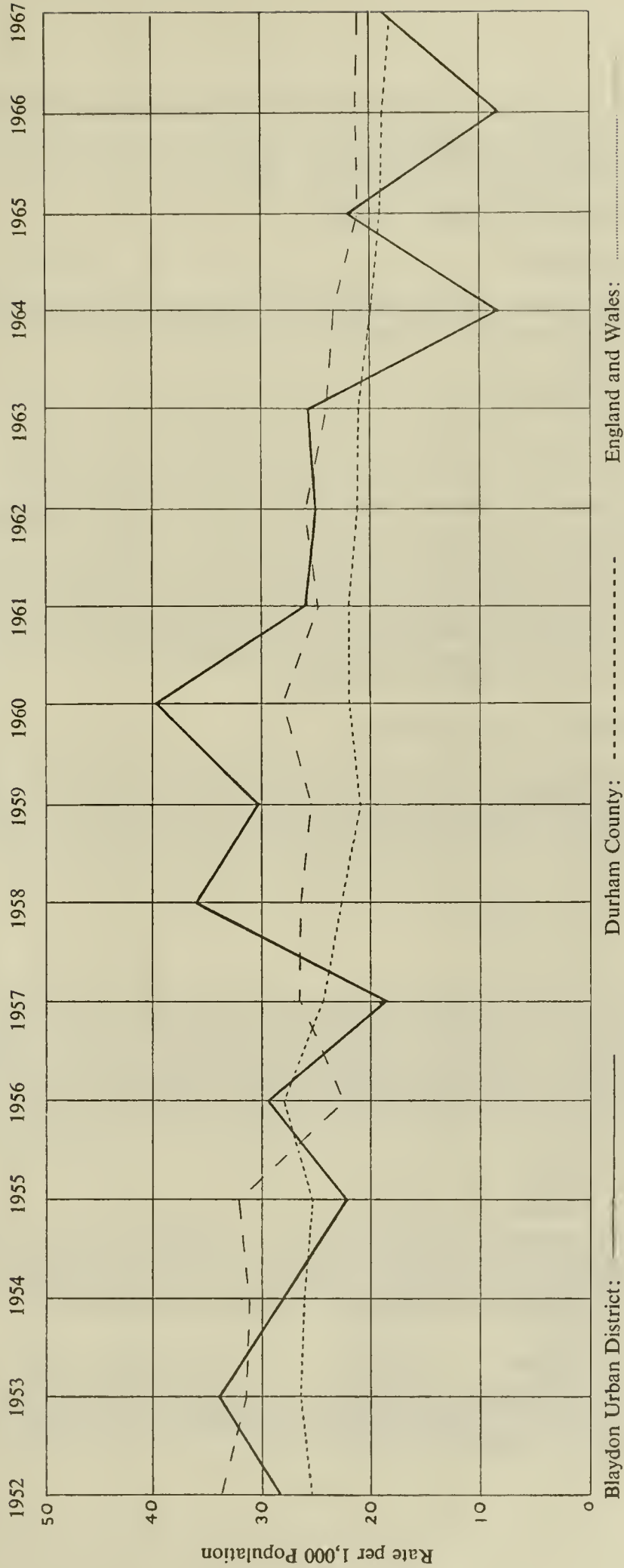
Graph comparing Crude Birth Rates for BLAYDON URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1951 (inset)



Graph comparing Crude Death Rates for BLAYDON URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1951 (inset)



Graph comparing Infant Mortality, Rates for BLAYDON URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1952



III. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Hospital and Specialist Services Provisions.

(1) Hospital Services.

Hospital facilities for the District are provided by the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board through the North-West Durham and Gateshead Hospital Management Committees.

(a) General.

The Royal Victoria Infirmary and the Newcastle General Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham General and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead, receive the majority of medical and surgical cases from the District. Some cases are also referred to and treated at the Hexham General Hospital as convenient. Hospital in-patient and out-patient treatment for suitable cases is also obtainable at the Dunston Hill Hospital; and the Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital undertakes the treatment of a limited number of medical and surgical cases. Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, has a bed capacity of 300 and caters for patients who are chronically sick, orthopaedic or geriatric in category. It also provides, under the National Assistance Act, Part III Accommodation for patients.

(b) Midwifery and Gynaecology.

The great majority of cases of this nature which require hospital treatment are sent either to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham General or the Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead, or the Richard Murray Hospital, Shotley Bridge.

(c) Infectious Diseases.

(i) *Tuberculosis.*

Provision is made for the hospital treatment of tuberculous patients in sanatoria throughout the counties of Durham and Northumberland. Normans Riding Infectious Diseases Hospital, Winlaton, is used as a sanatorium for both male and female patients. There is a Chest Clinic attached to the Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital where a Chest Physician attends and holds regular clinical sessions. Residents from the southern part of the District are sometimes referred to the Shotley Bridge Chest Clinic.

(ii) *Venereal Diseases.*

Specialist treatment is available for these complaints at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, Newcastle General Hospital, where every effort is made to maintain secrecy and avoid attendance becoming generally known. General Practitioners are able to refer patients to the Clinic for necessary investigations and treatment.

(iii) *Smallpox.*

Provision is made at Langley Park Isolation Hospital for the isolation and treatment of cases of smallpox which, should such occur in the District, would be admitted thereto promptly.

(iv) *Other Infectious Diseases.*

Cases of other infectious diseases requiring isolation are treated either at the Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital, Gateshead, or the Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle.

(d) **Mental Health.**

The Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, provides 44 beds for the accommodation of the mentally sick.

Cases of acute or severe mental illness are normally admitted to St. Nicholas Hospital, Newcastle. Less severe cases can also be received there for care and treatment.

(e) **Convalescent Home.**

The establishment, situate in Ryton Urban District and formerly known as the Castle Hill Convalescent Home, is now styled the Country Branch Annexe of the Royal Victoria Infirmary. It is no longer strictly a convalescent home and does not admit patients directly but only for pre or post Royal Victoria Infirmary treatment. There are 98 beds, 53 for women patients and the remainder for men.

(2) **Laboratory Services.**

The Public Health Laboratory Service for the District operates from the Public Health Laboratory, Pathological Institute, Newcastle General Hospital. By arrangement with the Durham County Council, all specimens for bacteriological examination are sent there by general practitioners, patients and Health Departments of the Local Authorities, and investigated and reported upon free of charge.

(3) **Blood Transfusion Service.**

The Regional Blood Transfusion Service has its Headquarters in the Newcastle General Hospital. It provides all necessary services for this District. It has a Donor Panel Department which organises and maintains Blood Donor Panels in each locality. In this District, during 1967, sessions were held as under. The figures show the strength of the panel on the dates listed, and the number of donations which were received on those dates.

<i>Name of Panel</i>	<i>Sessions Centre</i>	<i>Date of Sessions</i>	<i>Strength of Panel</i>	<i>Total Attendance</i>
Blaydon and District	Trinity Church Hall, John Street	2nd February	169	124
		3rd August	169	91
Chopwell and District	Co-operative Hall	3rd January	181	104
		25th July	181	121
Rowlands Gill and District	Miners' Welfare Hall, Strathmore Road	28th March	189	122
		3rd October	189	115
Winlaton	Winlaton New West End Club	28th February	242	109
		29th August	242	151

(4) Mass Miniature Radiography.

The Mass Radiography Unit which serves this District is Unit 1A, which is based on the Newcastle General Hospital. A Mobile Unit visits Districts at times throughout the year and holds public sessions at industrial establishments. The statistics for this District are given below.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Miniature Films</i>			<i>Number referred to Chest Clinic</i>		
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1967						
Public	78	68	146	5	1	6

No industrial establishments were visited during 1967.

It is expected that the Mass Radiography Unit will spend a week during 1968 in No. 1 Health Area (Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts) holding public sessions. It is possible that industrial establishments will also be visited.

Local Authority Provision.

(1) Local Health Authority.

The Local Health Authority for the Urban District is the Durham County Council. It is responsible for the following:

Personal Health Services.

- (a) Health Centres
- (b) Maternity and Child Welfare
- (c) Midwifery
- (d) Health Visiting
- (e) Home Nursing
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation
- (g) Ambulances
- (h) Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care of sick persons
- (i) Home Help Service
- (j) Mental Health
- (k) Other Community Care Services
- (l) Health Education

Committees.

- (a) Central Co-ordinating Committee
- (b) Local Co-ordinating Committees

Personal Health Services.

(a) Health Centres.

There are, as yet, no Health Centres within the meaning of the Act in operation in the District.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare.

Clinics, where mothers or children may attend for the treatment of minor ailments of school children, for dental and for sunray treatment, and for maternity

and child welfare services, are provided by the Education and Health Departments of the Durham County Council at various Centres throughout the District. Welfare foods are also distributed at these Centres. Sessions are held at centres in the District, where treatment is provided and welfare foods are supplied, as listed below.

	<i>Address of Centre</i>		<i>Sessions</i>
Blaydon	Axwell Park Clinic, Shibdon Road	Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	Tuesday and Friday afternoons, alternate Tuesday mornings and alternate Thursday afternoons.
		Dental Clinic	Mondays and Fridays weekly.
		Distribution of Welfare Foods	Tuesdays weekly and Friday afternoons.
Chopwell	Trinity Methodist Church Hall	Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	} Alternate Monday afternoons.
		Distribution of Welfare Foods	
Rowlands Gill	Miners' Welfare Hall	Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	} Wednesday afternoons and alternate Wednesday mornings.
		Distribution of Welfare Foods	
Winlaton	Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic	Tuesdays weekly and alternate Thursdays.
		Distribution of Welfare Foods	Tuesdays weekly and alternate Thursday mornings.
Winlaton Mill	Village Hall	Distribution of Welfare Foods	Alternate Tuesday mornings between 11 a.m. and 12 noon.

Assistant Medical Officers attend certain sessions at Centres, information regarding which can be obtained at the appropriate Centre.

On the stated days, the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are open from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1.30 to 4 p.m.; and the Centres for the distribution of Welfare Foods from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 to 4 p.m.

(c) Midwifery.

An expectant mother can have the services of any doctor who undertakes maternity work as part of the General Practitioner service organised by the Durham Executive Council. Ante-natal and post-natal care are available at Local Health Authority Clinics. A domiciliary midwifery service is also provided. The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the District Midwives are given below.

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Tel. No.</i>
Blackhall Mill	Mrs. J. A. Haddock	44 Rosedale Avenue, Blackhill, Consett.	Consett 3110
Blaydon	Mrs. H. Waggott	17 Oswin Street, Blaydon.	Blaydon 2351
Chopwell	Mrs. R. Reynolds	2 Wood View, Chopwell	Chopwell 306
High Spen	Mrs. M. I. Moan	11 Olga Terrace, Highfield	Rowlands Gill 250
Rowlands Gill			
Winlaton	Mrs. M. D. Scott	100 Hanover Drive, Hanover Estate, Winlaton	Blaydon 3241

106 births in the District were notified by District Midwives during the year.

(d) Health Visiting.

Health Visitors attend persons in their homes to give advice to aged or ill persons, to advise expectant and nursing mothers on the care of young children, and to stress the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. The names and addresses, and telephone numbers as available, of the District Health Visitors and the number and types of domiciliary visits carried out in the District are given below:

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>
Blaydon	Miss G. Cato (until 15th March) Mrs. P. Hardy (from 11th September)	29 Trajan Walk, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Northumberland. 127 Park Road North, Chester-le-Street.
Blackhall Mill Chopwell	Mrs. E. Robinson (until 14th January)	Swiss Cottage, Hamsterley Mill Estate, Rowlands Gill.
High Spen Rowlands Gill	} Miss G. A. Bryant (until 26th April)	22 Cowen Terrace, Rowlands Gill.
Winlaton (part of)	Miss J. Sanderson (until 31st May)	3 The Crescent, Bridgehill, Blackhill, Consett.
Winlaton (part of)	Mrs. J. Moore (from 1st April)	3 Delhi View, Woodside, Ryton.

Domiciliary Visits:

Maternity and Child Welfare .....	.....	2,649
Tuberculosis .....	.....	44
Mentally Sub-normal .....	.....	44
Schools .....	.....	149
General Health .....	.....	137
Aged People .....	.....	141
Total .....	.....	3,164

(e) Home Nursing.

A Home Nursing Service is provided as the responsibility of the Local Health Authority. Any requests for this service should be made to the Superintendent of Home Nursing at County Hall, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4411); or to one of the District Nurses whose names, addresses and telephone numbers are listed below.

<i>Ward</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Tel. No.</i>
Blaydon	Mrs. D. F. Taylor (until 30th September) Mrs. E. Wolfington (from 4th December)	3 Seymour Terrace, Barmoor, Ryton 8 Longridge, Bagnall Estate, Winlaton.	Ryton 2485 Blaydon 2620
Chopwell	Mrs. K. Wigham	38 Pear Tree Terrace, Chopwell	Chopwell 223
High Spen Rowlands Gill	} Mrs. E. Angus	13 Barkwood Road, Rowlands Gill	Rowlands Gill 2629
Winlaton	Mrs. L. I. Auckland	6 Naylor Avenue, Winlaton Mill	Blaydon 3203

13,615 visits were made by District Nurses during the year.

(f) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus may be obtained, free of charge, on application to General Medical Practitioners or at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Immunisation against poliomyelitis is available, free of charge, for all unprotected persons under forty years of age and not less than six months old on the date of application, for all expectant mothers and for certain other specified persons, on application to General Medical Practitioners, to the County Health Department in Durham, to the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area or at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. Sessions are also arranged at clinics in the District where eligible persons may receive such protection. Protection is now by oral vaccine.

Yearly schemes are arranged by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the immunisation at school of school children against diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis.

Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained, free of charge, on application to any General Medical Practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service General Practitioner Service; and, for children, also at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis may be carried out, in appropriate circumstances, by the Chest Physician at the Chest Clinic at Whickham. The vaccination with B.C.G. of all non-immune school children over eleven years of age is carried out yearly by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area.

It is anticipated that vaccination against measles will be commenced in 1968.

Statistics of immunisations and vaccinations carried out in the District are given in Part IV of this Report.

(g) Ambulance Service.

The Durham County Council Health Department controls and provides the ambulance facilities for the Administrative County.

All requests for an ambulance should be made to the Message Receiving Centre at the Ambulance Headquarters Control, Framwellgate Moor, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4488) which is responsible for such service to the No. 1 Health Area. The Centre is open for message reception for 24 hours a day.

A General Service Sub-Depot at Winlaton deals, on instructions from Durham, with routine work of the service from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

Details of the work carried out in respect of No. 1 Health Area are given below:

<i>Stretcher Cases</i>	<i>Sitting Cases</i>	<i>Journeys</i>	<i>Miles</i>
3,132	27,496	6,006	185,361

(h) Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care of Sick Persons.

Nursing equipment for sick persons is provided, by Durham County Council, on request through General Medical Practitioners, District Nurses or Hospital Almoners. Invalid chairs are also available; and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering from tuberculosis. A charge is normally made for these services but, in certain circumstances, the charge may be reduced or waived altogether.

The under-listed items of equipment can be so supplied.

Adult Cots	Chairs (Push)	Fracture Boards
Air Rings	Chairs (Junior Push)	Junior Spinal Carriages
Bed Cages	Chairs (Rim-Driven)	Leg Rests
Bed Packs	Commodore	Lifting Poles
Bedpans	Dunlopillo Cushions	Mattresses (Sorbo)
Bedrests	Eneuresis Sets	Rubber Sheeting
Bedsteads (Iron)		Urinals

Equipment was received by 228 residents of the District during 1967.

Limited accommodation is available in convalescent homes provided by voluntary agencies and by the County Council; information regarding this can be obtained from the County Health Department. Domiciliary visits are made to patients at home by Health Visitors and District Nurses.

Chiropody Service.

As part of its responsibilities as the Local Health Authority for the District, the County Council finances the Chiropody Service run by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service. The actual chiropody treatment is carried out by fully qualified chiropodists and all residents of pensionable age are eligible for this service should they require it. Details of this service are set out on page 23.

(i) Home Help Services.

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is needed because of the presence of any person who is an expectant mother, lying-in, ill, aged or a child not over school age. Throughout the year until 17th December, requests for the services of a Home Help could be made to Mrs. Lawther, 62 Barkwood Road, Rowlands Gill, when the post of Assistant Organiser became vacant, Mrs. Lawther having been appointed to another Authority. Our good wishes go with her.

The new Home Help Assistant Organiser, Mrs. Colson, of 13 Ravensworth Road, Dunston, will not take up appointment until sometime in February, 1968, after which she can be contacted at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Axwell Park, Blaydon, every Friday morning between 9 and 11 a.m. (Tel. No. Blaydon 3291).

Details of work undertaken by the Home Help Service in No. 1 Health Area during the year are given below.

Number of cases at 1/1/67	.....	652
New cases served during the year	.....	318
Total number of cases served during the year	.....	970
Cases terminated during the year	.....	268
Cases served at 31/12/67	.....	702
Number of Home Helps employed at 31/12/67	.....	402
Visits made by Assistant Organisers during year	.....	5,869

(j) Mental Health.

Under the Mental Health Act, 1959, the Local Health Authority is responsible for domiciliary supervision, care and after-care, of the mentally sick and the educationally subnormal.

An Adult Residential Training Centre for the Educationally Subnormal of the County is situated at Lanchester. Residents live-in from Monday to Friday of each week, returning home at the week-end.

For non-adults, a similar but non-residential Junior Training Centre is established at Consett. There is also, at Gateshead, a Day Centre for the Educationally Subnormal which can be attended by residents from Whickham, Dunston and Swalwell. There are two such Centres, the Junior Training Centre for boys and girls under sixteen years, and the Senior Training Centre for older boys.

Additionally, some educationally subnormal children from No. 1 Health Area continue to attend daily the Training Centre at the Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital, Prudhoe.

Statistics are given below of the number of residents from this District being cared for or supervised by County Council staff as a responsibility under this Act.

<i>Number of Persons registered as Mentally Subnormal</i>	<i>Number of Persons under Supervision</i>	<i>Number of Persons in Hospitals</i>
118	84	34

(k) Other Community Care Services.

The names, addresses, telephone numbers and scope of duties, of the various Field Officers for these Services, are set out below.

Home Teacher of the Blind

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Tel. No.</i>	<i>Nature of Duties</i>
Miss J. Coulthard, Child Welfare Centre, Shibdon Road, Blaydon.	Blaydon 3291	Domiciliary visiting of blind and partially sighted persons.

Mental Welfare Officers

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Tel. No.</i>	<i>Nature of Duties</i>
Mr. J. A. Denton, 13 Coldstream Drive, Winlaton.	<i>Office:</i> Blaydon 3291 <i>Home:</i> Blaydon 2848	Removal of mentally ill patients to hospital under Mental Health Act, 1959. Supervision of subnormal persons, mainly adult males. After-care of mentally ill persons.
Mr. N. Hamilton, East House, Greenside, Ryton.	<i>Office:</i> Blaydon 3291 <i>Home:</i> Ryton 3124	do. do.
Miss H. E. Marshall Health Department, County Hall, Durham.	Durham 4411 (Ext. 375)	Responsible for supervision of certain subnormal and psychiatric cases and distribution of Section 57 (Exclusion from School) letters.

(The Mental Welfare Officers may be contacted at their own homes between 9—10 a.m. and 4—5 p.m.; if not available, a message may be left at Durham 4411, Ext. 372.)

Social Workers

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Tel. No.</i>	<i>Nature of Duties</i>	
Mrs. E. S. Elliott, Hexham Villa, Egton Terrace, Birtley.	Birtley 2880 and 2889 (Until 9.30 each morn- ing except Tuesdays when in County Hall)	Casework in respect of handicapped persons, some problem families and eviction.	
Mr. A. Robertson, Child Welfare Centre, Shibdon Road, Blaydon.	Blaydon 3291	do.	do.

Area Children's Officer

<i>Name and Address</i>	<i>Tel. No.</i>
Miss M. Bloomfield, 11 Station Road, Stanley.	Stanley 2792

Child Care Officers

<i>To be contacted at Stanley 2792:</i>	<i>To be contacted at Houghton-le-Spring 3120:</i>
Mr. S. Adair	Mrs. C. P. Bowers
Mrs. F. Gordon	Miss A. E. Kidd
Mrs. V. Graham	Mr. J. F. McLean
Mr. K. Grimes	Miss A. Smith
Mr. S. Horswill	Miss M. Wheldon

(1) Health Education.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, Local Health and Local Sanitary Authorities have power to arrange programmes of health education within their area of jurisdiction. Additionally, Local Health Authorities are further authorised in this respect in various sections of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The County Council Health Education Section has expanded the visual aid service and made available to County staff working in Districts all forms of machinery such as projectors and screens, also posters, pamphlets, films, slides, tape-recordings, cine-cassettes, small exhibitions, photographs and flannelgraphs, if required.

Additionally, each month material is published on a particular subject and issued to all the Child Welfare Centres and to others on request. During 1967, such publications included the following subjects:

Cigarette Smoking	Dental Health
Immunisation	Food Hygiene
Cervical Cytology	Home Hygiene
Home Safety	Nutrition
Holiday Safety	Problems of the Elderly

As District Health Education activities, Ministry and Central Council for Health Education posters and pamphlets have been distributed widely to appropriate organisations for display on the premises and distribution to staff. This has particularly applied to food hygiene and anti-smoking publications.

Committees.

(a) Central Co-ordinating Committee.

Meetings of this Committee are held in County Hall as frequently as required.

(b) Local Co-ordinating Committees.

The Local Co-ordinating Committee for No. 1 Health Area met during 1967 on three occasions at regular four-monthly intervals. The under-listed voluntary organisations were represented.

British Red Cross Society
Local Medical Committee
District Old People's Welfare Committee (3)
St. John Ambulance Brigade
Womens' Royal Voluntary Service for Civil Defence

These meetings were well attended and it is felt that they served a very useful purpose in making known to the different organisations the scope of work undertaken by each, thereby determining how such voluntary work could most usefully cover the needs of the Area.

(2) Local Sanitary Authority.

The Local Sanitary Authority for the Urban District is the District Council, and the work carried out by the District Health Department is discussed in detail later in the Report.

(a) Meals on Wheels.

A Meals on Wheels Service, sponsored and financed by this Council with part financial assistance from the County Council and run by the Blaydon Branch of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, was commenced on the 24th August, 1964. The difficulty in transport encountered during 1965 and 1966, which restricted this service to 12 recipients, was resolved early in 1967 when the Blaydon Council purchased a purpose bought Bedford 6 cwt. van for this service. As a result of this, the service was gradually expanded and, at the end of the year, some 42 residents of the District were receiving hot meals twice per week.

Thanks are due to the Women's Royal Voluntary Service for the work carried out and Churchill Gears for the supply of meals, whose combined valuable co-operation made this expansion possible.

(b) Chiropody Service.

The Chiropody Service, run by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service and financed by the Durham County Council, continued to expand through increased number of sessions held at clinics with a corresponding increase in the number of residents receiving treatment.

Details of this Service, including statistics, are given below.

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Date of Opening</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of Sessions per month</i>	<i>Average attendance per Session</i>
Blaydon	5/5/65	80	2	10
Chopwell	24/5/65	78	2	14
High Spen	24/5/65	58	2	10
Rowlands Gill	12/1/66	150	2	10
Winlaton	3/5/65	184	8	10
Winlaton Mill	7/2/66	31	1	9

(c) Old People's Welfare Committee.

This Committee continued expanding actively throughout 1967, concentrating mainly on the finding of premises and adapting these for the setting up of Luncheon Clubs.

The Rowlands Gill Luncheon Club, which was reported as having opened during 1966, has functioned extremely well and the average number of attendances per session each Tuesday has risen to 40.

Two further Luncheon Clubs were started during the year. The Luncheon Club at Winlaton, held in the Mary and Bessie Youth Premises, was opened in April with an average attendance which rose from an initial 13 to approximately 42 per session by the beginning of 1968. The Luncheon Club at Chopwell meets in Broomfield Crescent Communal Room on Wednesdays. By the end of the year the attendance per session had risen to 25.

Premises at the Residents Association Pavilion, High Spenn, were offered for use for a Luncheon Club at High Spenn and were inspected and approved, for such purpose, by the Medical Officers of Health, subject to certain alterations. These alterations are expected to be completed and the Club opened in the summer of 1968.

The need for a Luncheon Club in Blaydon is as great as in the other Wards but so far, an acceptable premises has not become available. The Committee is pursuing its endeavours in this connection.

All three Luncheon Clubs are very popular, well supported and efficiently run.

Executive Council Provision.

The Durham Executive Council is responsible for the provision of the General Medical and Dental, the Pharmaceutical and the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services for the District. Medical practices in the District are largely partnerships of two or more doctors.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1963.

Family Case Conferences.

The Co-ordinating Committees dealing with children neglected in their homes, which were re-named Family Case Conferences, continued to meet four-monthly. For the year 1967, Dr. J. L. Siddle, Assistant County Medical Officer for No. 1 Health Area, presided as Chairman in accordance with previous agreement, your own Medical Officer of Health deputising when required.

The statistics of the District work undertaken throughout 1967 are given below.

<i>Number of families under discussion on 1st January, 1967</i>	<i>Number of families added to agenda</i>	<i>Number of families on which discussion closed</i>	<i>Number of families remaining for discussion</i>
2	1	—	3

EDUCATION ACT, 1944

Local Authority.

The Durham County Council is the Local Education Authority for the Urban District.

School Health Services.

The School Health Services are provided by the County Council. These are the responsibility of the County Medical Officer who, as Principal School Medical Officer, carries out the requirements of the Act through his Deputy and staff. The services provide for systematic medical inspection, by routine attendances at schools of an Assistant Medical Officer, and for the medical and dental treatment of school children. Special School Clinics have been built—often a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre functions in the same building—where Assistant Medical and Dental Officers attend on a sessional basis.

When a child is found at medical examination to require specialist examination or treatment, arrangements are made, with the agreement of the parents and the family doctor, for the child to attend the appropriate hospital or clinic. Facilities are provided at school clinics for the treatment of minor ailments, defective vision, dental and speech defects. Special schools are provided for handicapped children who are educationally subnormal or delicate. When necessary, arrangements are made for other handicapped children to be placed in special schools maintained by other Authorities.

HOUSING ACTS, 1924-1957.

Aged Persons Accommodation.

The Council have continued, during the year, their policy of providing dwellings especially suited to the needs of aged persons.

The number of such dwellings, which have been erected since 1936, is as follows :

Winlaton	.....	.....	.....	306
Rowlands Gill	.....	.....	.....	108
Chopwell	.....	.....	.....	67
Total				481

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-51.

Section 21—Provision of Residential Accommodation.

Hostel accommodation is provided by the County in No. 1 Health Area at:

Winton House, Parkhead Estate, Winlaton	Tel. No. Blaydon 2900.
“The Hermitage”, Front Street, Whickham	Tel. No. Whickham 887372
Dcrwentdale House, Ryton	Tel. No. Ryton 2009.

Residents of the District requiring such type of accommodation can be admitted also to any of the County Hostels throughout Durham County. Information regarding these can be obtained from the Assistant County Medical Officer.

At the end of the year, 55 residents of the District, 29 males and 26 females, were accommodated in Residential Part III Accommodation.

Section 47—Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention.

Although the Council are authorised under these Acts, in certain cases, to apply for compulsory powers to remove persons in need of care and attention, in most cases people are anxious to remain in their own homes. It has not been found necessary during this year to take such action. While there is increasing evidence of persons who are aged, infirm, living alone and in need of some degree of assistance, with the co-operation of the Home Help Service and the Welfare Department of the Local Health Authority, and of the National Assistance Board, it has been possible to effect improvement in the welfare of these persons in their homes or by admission to Part III Accommodation on a voluntary basis. As a result, recourse to compulsory powers is rarely needed.

Section 50—Burial and Cremation of the Dead.

No action was necessary under this part of the Act.

IV. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

PREVALENCE

The number of cases on infectious diseases notified during the year was 457 as compared with 214 in 1966.

Table comparing Numbers of Notifications during the years 1966/67

	NUMBER OF CASES 1966				NUMBER OF CASES 1967			
	Notified			Confirmed by Laboratory	Notified			Confirmed by Laboratory
	M.	F.	Total		M.	F.	Total	
Scarlet Fever	15	8	23	—	6	2	8	—
Whooping Cough	4	8	12	—	10	12	22	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	76	70	146	—	137	138	285	—
Acute Pneumonia	2	2	4	—	—	3	3	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—
Dysentery	14	9	23	23	50	68	118	118
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2
Tuberculosis Respiratory	2	4	6	3	9	3	12	12
Meninges and C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Totals	113	101	214	26	215	232	457	135

Incidence of Principal Infectious Diseases since 1956

Year	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Typhoid and Paratyphoid		Measles		Whooping Cough		Tuberculosis	
	Cases Notified.	Deaths	Cases Notified.	Deaths	Cases Notified.	Deaths	Cases Notified.	Deaths	Cases Notified.	Deaths	Cases Notified.	Deaths
1956	14	—	—	—	—	—	173	1	45	1	23	2
1957	13	—	—	—	—	—	575	—	60	—	20	3
1958	7	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	55	—	18	—
1959	39	—	—	—	—	—	367	—	11	—	11	—
1960	7	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	3	—	18	7
1961	6	—	—	—	—	—	539	—	8	—	23	4
1962	5	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	44	—	11	2
1963	5	—	—	—	—	—	383	—	4	—	11	2
1964	14	—	—	—	2	—	73	—	1	—	10	5
1965	23	—	—	—	—	—	340	—	4	—	4	5
1966	23	—	—	—	—	—	146	—	12	—	6	9
1967	8	—	—	—	2	—	285	—	22	—	13	2

**Table of Infectious Diseases notified during 1967
showing Monthly and Ward Distribution**

	MONTHS												TOTALS	WARDS			
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December		Blaydon	Winlaton	Rowlands Gill/High Spen	Chopwell
Scarlet Fever	1	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	2	6	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	2	7	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	7	—	22	1	21	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	60	70	41	21	52	11	10	8	1	—	—	11	285	132	147	4	2
Acute Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	3	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	76	118	4	19	95	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	—	—	2	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	1	1
Tuberculosis:																	
Respiratory	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	3	2	—	12	2	5	1	4
Meninges and C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Totals	63	77	49	26	55	13	11	11	2	6	53	91	457	143	204	103	7

**Table of Infectious Diseases showing Age Group Distribution
during 1967**

	Total Cases Notified	AGE GROUP										
		Under 1 year	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 and over	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	8	—	2	2	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	22	1	4	9	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	285	13	87	93	85	4	1	1	—	—	—	1
Acute Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Dysentery	118	2	4	8	55	12	1	1	31	3	1	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Food Poisoning	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis:												
Respiratory	12	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	3	4	1	—
Meninges and C.N.S.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	457	17	97	112	152	17	4	5	39	10	2	2

Scarlet Fever.

8 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified.

Home treatment of this disease is practised where satisfactory isolation arrangements were possible. When hospital isolation is considered necessary, admission to Sheriff Hill Hospital is arranged.

Diphtheria.

No cases of diphtheria have been notified since 1954.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases of poliomyelitis have been notified since 1959.

Smallpox.

No cases of smallpox have been notified since 1930.

Dysentery.

118 cases of dysentery were notified this year as against 23 in 1966. These were of the mild Sonne type. A close check was kept on each case and contacts.

Most of the cases occurred in the Rowlands Gill Ward although the outbreak, which commenced in November, was not confined to that Ward. Extensive and willing collaboration in controlling the spread of the infection in schools, was forthcoming from the School Health Service and the County Education Department, particularly the Divisional Education Officer and the Head Teachers of schools involved. Strict hygiene measures were introduced into all schools in the District. The Public Health Laboratory Service were of the greatest assistance in the determining of cases and the clearing of contacts. By the end of December, there were definite signs that the outbreak was subsiding.

Typhoid Fever.

No cases of typhoid fever have been notified since 1952.

Paratyphoid Fever.

Two cases of paratyphoid infection were diagnosed in October 1967. Both resided in the same house and both patients were co-operative in taking the necessary precautions to prevent spread of infection. All known contacts co-operated in providing specimens for clearance tests and no other incidence of infection was ascertained. At the end of 1967, the stools of both patients were still positive and careful supervision was being continued.

Food Poisoning.

Two cases of food poisoning were notified.

Tuberculosis.

12 cases of respiratory and 2 cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified, one of the latter type being transferred into the District. Detailed figures are shown in Tables A to E below.

It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, with regard to the employment in dairies of persons suffering from tuberculosis; nor was action necessary under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

**Table A. Cases Notified during 1966 and 1967
(including inward transfers)**

Year		Total	Blaydon	Winlaton	Rowlands Gill and High Spen	Chopwell
1967	Respiratory	12	2	5	1	4
	Non-Respiratory	2 (1)	2 (1)	—	—	—
	Totals	14 (1)	4 (1)	5	1	4
1966	Totals	9 (3)	3	5 (3)	1	—

**Table B. Age group distribution of new cases notified
(including inward transfers).**

Age Periods	NEW CASES			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—
1-4 years	—	—	—	—
5-14 years	—	1	—	1 (1)
15-24 years	2	—	—	—
25-34 years	2	—	—	1
35-44 years	—	1	—	—
45-54 years	1	1	—	—
55-64 years	1	1	—	—
65 and over	2	—	—	—
Age not known	—	—	—	—
Totals	8	4	—	2 (1)

() shows number of inward transfers.

Table C. Comparative Table of Registered Tuberculosis Sufferers.

Sex	Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commencement of year 1967		Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at end of year 1967	
	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory
Male	41	3	40	3
Female	49	5	46	7
Totals	90	8	86	10

Table D. Removals from the Tuberculosis Register during 1967.

Reasons	Totals	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Removed from District	1	—	1	—	—
Recovered	11	6	5	—	—
Deceased	4	3	1	—	—
Totals	16	9	7	—	—

Table E. Tuberculosis Incidence, 1956-1967.

Year	URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL						ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF DURHAM			ENGLAND AND WALES		
	Incidence			Attack Rate			Attack Rate			Attack Rate		
	R.	N.R.	T.	R.	N.R.	T.	R.	N.R.	T.	R.	N.R.	T.
1956	18	5	23	.592	.165	.737	.746	.116	.862	.701	.092	.793
1957	17	3	20	.559	.099	.658	.683	.116	.799	.644	.085	.729
1958	16	2	18	.522	.065	.587	.637	.097	.734	.586	.076	.662
1959	11	—	11	.358	—	.358	.509	.082	.591	.534	.062	.596
1960	17	1	18	.551	.032	.583	.497	.068	.560	.455	.061	.516
1961	20	3	23	.650	.098	.748	.438	.077	.515	.412	.058	.470
1962	9	2	11	.289	.064	.353	.444	.063	.507	.382	.057	.439
1963	8	3	11	.258	.097	.355	.363	.060	.423	.348	.055	.403
1964	8	2	10	.258	.065	.323	.332	.067	.399	.321	.054	.375
1965	4	1	5	.129	.032	.161	.263	.051	.314	.274	.053	.337
1966	6	—	6	.190	—	.190	.303	.036	.339	.256	.047	.303
1967	12	1	13	.376	.031	.408	.288	.027	.315	—	—	—

R—Respiratory. N.R.—Non-Respiratory. T—Total.

Attack Rate—Incidence per 1,000 population.

CONTROL.

Below are given statistics and information of the measures which have been taken for the protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, Smallpox and Tuberculosis, of residents in the District.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Protection can be given separately or jointly against each of these infections. Details of the work undertaken through health services in this District are given as follows.

Diphtheria

General Practitioner, and Child Welfare (L.A.) Services.

Children born in	.....	1960-63	1964	1965	1966	1967
Primary	.....	28	9	14	307	230
Boosters	.....	219	25	172	107	—

Area Health (L.A.) Services (in Schools).

Children born in	.....	1960-63	1964	1965	1966	1967
Primary	.....	51	—	—	—	—
Boosters	.....	140	—	—	—	—

Whooping Cough

General Practitioner, and Child Welfare (L.A.), Services.

Children born in	.....	1960-63	1964	1965	1966	1967
Primary	.....	8	8	14	303	227
Boosters	.....	58	21	167	101	1

Tetanus

General Practitioner, and Child Welfare (L.A.), Services.

Children born in	.....	1960-63	1964	1965	1966	1967
Primary	.....	29	9	15	308	230
Boosters	.....	214	25	172	106	1

Area Health (L.A.) Services (in Schools).

Children born in	.....	1960-63	1964	1965	1966	1967
Primary	.....	51	—	—	—	—
Boosters	.....	117	—	—	—	—

Poliomyelitis.

Details of the number of primary vaccinations and booster doses given during the year 1967 are set out below.

Primary Courses
583

Booster Doses
415

Smallpox.

Details of the number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations given during 1967 are set out below.

Primary Vaccination

<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 year</i>	<i>2-4 years</i>	<i>5-15 years</i>	<i>Total</i>
20	233	35	18	306

Re-Vaccination

<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 year</i>	<i>2-4 years</i>	<i>5-15 years</i>	<i>Total</i>
—	—	1	1	2

Tuberculosis

Heaf Testing (School Health Service).

In Infants' Schools, during 1967, Health Visitors carried out routine Heaf testing of new entrants. The results were read the following week by Assistant Medical

Officers, and where positive, appropriate action was taken.

					<i>Number Heaf Tested</i>	<i>Number Heaf Positive</i>
Blackhall Mill County	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	—
Chopwell County	.....	.....	.....	.....	43	—
Highfield County	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	3
Highfield Roman Catholic	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	—
High Spennings County	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	—
					—	—
			Total	.....	92	3
					—	—

B.C.G. Vaccination

Details of the programmes of B.C.G. vaccination carried out by the Area Health Services in schools in 1967 are given below.

		<i>Number Vaccinated</i>	<i>Number Heaf Positive</i>	<i>Non- Consents</i>	<i>Total in Age Group</i>
Blaydon East Secondary	.....	80	12	14	118
Blaydon Secondary	.....	132	21	5	173
Chopwell Secondary	.....	40	2	5	53
Hookergate Secondary	.....	90	14	7	120
Rowlands Gill Secondary	.....	54	6	4	67
St. Thomas More Secondary	.....	76	6	18	113
		—	—	—	—
Totals	....	472	61	53	644
		—	—	—	—

V.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

1. Water Supply.

All the houses in the District are supplied with water from the Water Undertakings' mains. Part of the township of Blaydon is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company. The remainder of the District is supplied by Durham County Water Board. The supplies were continuous and plentiful.

Routine samples for bacteriological examination, totalling 8, were taken from the domestic supply of houses in each Ward. The results indicated that the water was of satisfactory bacteriological quality. No complaints were received regarding the physical quality of the water.

I am indebted to the respective Water Undertakings which have supplied the following information:

(a) Durham County Water Board.

The Board was responsible for supplies to 8,676 premises.

Of the 58 samples taken to check the bacteriological quality of the water, 55 were classed as excellent.

Work carried out has been in connection with the usual extensions of mains required for housing development. The Honey Hill Treatment Works have been completed and are now supplying water of the very highest quality to the District. This is reflected in the absence of complaints referred to above.

(b) Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

The Company was responsible for supplies to 2,520 premises.

A total of 1,053 works control samples from the Whittle Dene and Henderson Filters were examined in the Company's Laboratory during the year and, of these, 99.43% were excellent. The 25 samples, taken at random in the area supplied by the Company, were also excellent.

A further 43 linear yards of new water pipes were laid in connection with industrial and housing development.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No complaints were received which necessitated the institution of formal action.

3. Closet Accommodation.

General improvement in closet accommodation standards in older houses has continued with the aid of Standard Improvement Grants, 59 houses being provided with inside water closets.

The figures below show the number and types of closet accommodation existing in the District:

Water Closets	.....	.....	.....	13,781
Ash Closets	.....	.....	.....	6

4. Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

The administration and supervision of this service is the responsibility of the Health Department. The removal of household, shop and factory refuse is carried out by direct labour.

In the interest of economy and efficiency of the cleansing service, the District is divided into two sub-districts, as follows:

- (a) Blaydon and Winlaton Wards with garage and depot at Hallgarth, Winlaton.
- (b) Rowlands Gill and High Spennard Ward and Chopwell Ward with garage and depot at Chopwell.

This authority undertakes the removal of trade refuse from factory, office and shop premises for which reasonable charges are made in accordance with the provisions of Section 73 of the Public Health Act, 1936. During the year, this service was extended to 176 premises at a cost, to the occupiers, of £590.

The method of disposal is by tipping the refuse untreated on to Council-owned land. In the past, fairly large tracts of derelict land have been reclaimed for building and recreational purposes by this means but the changing composition of refuse is making land reclamation and the control of tips more difficult.

The Local Government Operational Research Unit was engaged to report on refuse disposal in the Tyneside/Wearside Area and issued its Report during the year.

The Report indicated that the refuse disposal needs of the region would best be met by the installation of 6 incineration plants for the treatment of refuse, such plants being situated at Gateshead, Newcastle East, Newcastle West, South Shields, Sunderland and Tynemouth. The recommendations respecting the Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts were that:

- (a) the tipping of untreated refuse should cease as soon as possible.
- (b) because of the distance from the proposed incineration plant sites, these Authorities should continue to use their own disposal sites, installing small scale pulverisation plants.

A Joint Committee, representing these 3 Authorities, was formed to consider these recommendations and to investigate the possibility of implementing them. This Committee met once during the year and agreed in principle with the recommendations outlined in the Operational Research Unit's Report.

It is hoped to progress this matter further in 1968.

At the end of the year, the refuse collection staff comprised 1 foreman, 4 charge-hand loaders, 4 drivers, 18 loaders and 3 refuse tip workmen.

This work was carried out regularly and, on the whole, satisfactorily.

5. Drainage and Sewerage.

The 5 sewage treatment plants in the District are invested in the Tyneside Joint Sewerage Board which is responsible for their operation.

6. Atmospheric Pollution.

The Council's Smoke Control Programme was again, unavoidably, postponed.

Measurement of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide concentrations continued during the year. A summary of the results for the completed months is given below:

Volumetric SO₂ Recorder and Combined Smoke Filter 1967

Month	Smoke Concentrations in Microgrammes per Cubic Metre of Air			SO ₂ in Microgrammes per Cubic Metre of Air		
	Highest Reading	Lowest Reading	Monthly Average	Highest Reading	Lowest Reading	Monthly Average
January	888	332	470	239	68	152
February	512	85	258	205	62	119
March	421	82	N	83	50	N
April	467	93	275	271	17	129
May	1,096	60	408	239	52	108
June	311	99	141	245	28	87
July	141	38	83	176	26	60
August	203	53	104	246	29	78
September	392	56	183	289	38	102
October	321	71	188	148	45	75
November	N	N	N	N	N	N
December	N	N	N	N	N	N

(N—No results possible; insufficient information)

Complaints were received from time to time about the emission of black smoke from an industrial plant in the Blaydon Ward. This plant has now closed down and the problem no longer exists.

Close liaison with the Alkali Inspector and the Health Department staff continued and strict surveillance of emissions from other industrial plant was observed and appropriate action taken if and when it became necessary.

7. Noise Abatement.

No formal action under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960 was found necessary.

8. Moveable Dwellings and Caravan Sites.

No caravan site licences were in operation under the appropriate Act.

Good progress was made by the Surveyor's Department towards the provision of a Caravan Site at Derwent Park, Rowlands Gill and it is anticipated that it will be opened for the use of caravanners early in 1968.

9. Offensive Trades.

No establishments, defined as "offensive trades" under Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, operate in the District.

10. Shops Act, 1950.

Having a population of over 20,000, this Council exercises powers under this Act.

Visits were made to shop premises from time to time for the purposes of the Act and it was found that the provisions relating to statutory closing hours were generally complied with by the occupiers.

11.. Hairdressers and Barbers.

Routine inspections of the 17 ladies' and the 11 gentlemen's hairdressing establishments in the District were made throughout the year.

No contraventions of the Byelaws were noted with regard to premises, equipment and clothing.

12. Factories.

The number of factories on the Register at the end of the year was 123.

Thirty-seven inspections were made for the purposes of provisions as to health. No infringements were found which required statutory action.

Certain contraventions, of Section 7 of the Factories Act, 1961, relating to sanitary accommodation, were brought to the notice of factory owners in 3 cases. Satisfactory remedial measures were taken in all cases.

13. Common Lodging Houses.

There are no common lodging houses in the District.

14. Licensed Premises and Clubs.

The 47 licensed premises were inspected regularly under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Generally, it was found that managers, licensees and club stewards recognised their responsibilities and obligations under the Regulations and, where minor infringements were found, they readily co-operated and took the necessary remedial measures at the time of the inspection. In no case was it found necessary to institute any formal action.

15. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

(a) Rodent Control.

		<i>Non- Agricultural</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
1.	Number of properties in District	12,599	58
2.	(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	43	15
	(b) Number infested by: (i) rats	13	15
	(ii) mice	30	—
3.	(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	403	7
	(b) Number infested by: (i) rats	75	7
	(ii) mice	94	—

All sewers were treated twice during the year and post-baiting checks indicated that the sewers were relatively free from rat infestations.

(b) **Insect Control.**

All reported infestations were investigated; insecticides were issued and advice given on their proper use. Where major infestations occurred, the work of disinfection was carried out by staff of the Health Department.

The following tables gives details of infestations dealt with during 1967:

<i>Insect</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>Other Premises</i>
Ants	22	—
Clover Mite	67	—
Cockroach	32	26
Furniture Beetle	26	5
Spider Beetle	7	—
Wasps	8	4
Totals	162	35

16. **Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.**

General inspections of 243 premises, to which the Act applies and in respect of which the Council is the enforcing authority, were made during the year.

While no major infringements of the legal provisions were observed, it was found necessary to serve informal notices in respect of 118 premises. These mainly concerned minor breaches of the law and remedial measures were carried out by the employers.

REGISTRATION

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	95	53
Retail shops	5	193	169
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	20	14
Catering establishments open to public	1	3	3
Canteens	—	1	1
Fuel storage depots	—	3	3
Totals	8	315	243

Number of visits, by inspectors, to all kinds of registered premises: 351.

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPEOPLE

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	517
Retail shops	708
Wholesale departments, warehouses	130
Catering establishments open to public	21
Canteens	2
Fuel storage depots	9
Total	1,387
Total Males	616
Total Females	771

REPORTED ACCIDENTS

Workplace	Number reported		Total Number investi- gated	Action recommended		
	Fatal	Non Fatal		Prosecution	Formal warning	Informal advice
Office	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail shops	—	3	3	—	—	3
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	5	5	—	—	5
Catering establishments open to public	—	3	3	—	—	3
Canteens	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fuel storage depots	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	11	11	—	—	11

ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ACCIDENTS

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale warehouses	Catering establish- ments open to public, canteens	Fuel storage depots
Machinery	—	2	1	—	—
Transport	—	—	—	—	—
Falls of persons	—	—	2	1	—
Stepping on or striking against object or person	—	—	2	—	—
Handling goods	—	1	—	1	—
Struck by falling object	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	—	3	5	3	—

17. Cinemas.

The one cinema operating in the District, on inspection, was found to have a high standard of cleanliness and the provision of sanitary accommodation was found to be satisfactory.

18. Disinfection of Houses.

Germicidal fluid and disinfectant powder is kept available for supply to householders in cases of infectious diseases. If found necessary, fumigation is carried out by the public health inspectorate.

19. Mortuaries.

The District has one mortuary situated in a building in the yard of the Council Offices. Post-mortems, as required, are carried out in Normans Riding Hospital by arrangement with the Hospital Authorities.

20. Schools.

Close liaison continued between the Divisional Education Office and the Health Department on matters relating to infectious disease, sanitary accommodation, refuse disposal, food handling and pest infestations in schools throughout the District. This contributed considerably to the maintainance of satisfactory hygienic standards at these premises and proved particularly useful during the outbreak of dysentery in the last quarter of the year.

21. Recreation Grounds and Amenities.

The Open Spaces Committee has extended its programme of activities and has continued to provide recreational facilities throughout the District.

The Council's policy to adopt disused burial grounds and maintain these at public expense has been continued at High Spen and Blaydon. A reduction in the older type of memorials and conversion on the lawn cemetery principle has been implemented associated with the removal of curbstones and old decaying tombstones.

Details of other recreational improvements have already been given in Section 1 of this Report.

Summary of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances Remedied

	No. of Inspections	No. of informal no- tices served	No. of Statutory no- tices served	Defects rem- edied after notice
Food Hygiene Regulations:				
Inspection of Food Premises	167	54	—	54
re Unfit Food	153	—	—	—
of Licensed Premises	17	9	—	9
of Meat	67	—	—	—
re Registration	15	—	—	—
of Mobile Shops	6	—	—	—
re Sampling	58	—	—	—
Public Health Acts:				
Water Supply	17	17	—	17
Disrepair	251	216	—	216
Refuse Collection	210	98	—	98
Insect Infestations	197	—	—	—
Defective Drainage	53	53	—	53
Infectious Diseases	426	—	—	—
Nuisances	49	49	—	45
Dumping of Refuse	17	—	—	—
Hairdressers	1	1	—	1
Dirty Premises	32	32	—	31
Offensive Smells	6	—	—	—
Insanitary Conditions	6	6	—	5
Fumigation	3	—	—	—
Housing Acts:				
House Inspection	702	—	—	—
Demolition, etc.	39	—	—	—
Overcrowding	2	2	—	2
Rehousing	5	—	—	—
House Purchase and Housing Act:				
Standard Grants	1,058	—	—	—
Discretionary Grants	—	—	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests				
Act	492	—	—	—
Clean Air Act	34	—	—	—
National Assistance Act	8	—	—	—
Factories Act	37	—	—	—
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act	13	6	—	6
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	243	118	—	118
Milk and Dairies Regulations	20	2	—	2
Litter Act	22	8	—	8
Shops Act	16	—	—	—
Scrap Metal Dealers' Act	5	—	—	—
Noise Abatement Act	6	2	—	2
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	1	—	—	—
Riding Establishments Act	3	—	—	—
Meals on Wheels Service	39	—	—	—
Totals	4,496	673	—	667

VI. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk and Milk Products.

Dairy Farms.

The supervision of milk production at the dairy farms in the District is undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Dairies.

Four dairies, used mainly as receiving depots, remained registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

Distributors.

The County Council are responsible for the licensing and undertake milk sampling in respect of milk at special designation.

Milk Sampling.

The following table shows the results of milk sampling undertaken by the County Council.

Class of Milk	Number Taken	Appropriate Test	Number Passed	Number Failed
Pasteurised	57	Methylene Blue	57	—
		Phosphatase	57	—
Sterilised	47	Turbidity	47	—
Untreated	41	Methylene Blue	41	4
		Biological	8	—
		Antibiotic	39	—

Diseases from Milk.

No action became necessary under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

A bulk sample of milk, taken on the 9th November by the County Public Health Department from a herd on a farm in this District, was found, by guinea-pig test, to be contaminated with *Brucella abortus* and reported to this Department. Close liaison in milk sampling was maintained with the County Health Department and also with the owner and the Veterinary Surgeon. Liaison was also maintained with the Ministry of Agriculture and all recommendations and necessary action taken to prevent spread. As an additional diagnostic measure, as well as requiring ring tests on monthly samples of milk from the herd and from individual cows, culture tests of each sample were also made. As a result of the detailed investigations carried out by Public Health and Veterinary Authorities, the source of infection was traced to the affected cow, which was isolated and slaughtered. As soon as contamination became known, the cows affected or suspected were segregated and appropriate action taken. Regular milk sampling continued until considered unnecessary.

Ice Cream.

One establishment remained registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the manufacture of ice cream. The apparatus used in the manufacture of the product is of modern design which enables the occupier of the premises to comply fully with the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959-63.

Thirty-five samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination from shops and mobile vans. All of these proved to be of satisfactory bacteriological quality.

2. Meat and Meat Products.

Meat.

A slaughterhouse licence, in respect of the one private slaughterhouse in the District, the layout, construction and equipment of which complied with the Slaughterhouse Regulations, was renewed under the Slaughterhouse Act, 1958.

All animals slaughtered were inspected; these numbered 51 cattle, 204 sheep, and 1 pig.

Four slaughterman licences were renewed under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958, for a further year.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	51	—	—	204	1
Number inspected	51	—	—	204	1
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis					
Whole carcasses condemned.....	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	—	—	4	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	21.57%	—	—	1.96%	—
Tuberculosis Only					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis Only					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

More detailed information in respect of the above table is set out below:

108 lbs. Bovine Liver	.....	.....	Parasitic
14 lbs. Bovine Liver	.....	.....	Abscesses
4 prs. Sheep Lungs	.....	.....	Parasitic

All meat found to be unsound was voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent its use for human consumption.

Meat Products.

Canned meat found to be unsound and weighing a total of 1,397 lbs. was voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent its use for human consumption.

3. Other Foods.

The following other food products were found to be unsound, voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent their use for human consumption.

<i>Canned Foods</i>				<i>Weight</i>
Fruit	.....	.....	.....	3,659 lbs.
Vegetables	.....	.....	.....	842 lbs.
Fish	.....	.....	.....	18 lbs.
Other	.....	.....	.....	376 lbs.

Six articles of food, alleged by the purchasers to be not of the nature or substance or quality expected at the time of purchase, were brought to the notice of the Health Department as and when necessary, liaison with the Food and Drugs Department of the Durham County Council was established to determine appropriate action required. Below is given a brief summary of the measures taken respecting these 6 articles.

<i>Article of Food</i>	<i>Complaint</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1 large white loaf	Contaminated by extraneous matter	A letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 can of beer	Contained mould growth	A letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 small brown loaf	Containing piece of twine	A letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 tin boned chicken	Containing 1½ in. steel bolt	A letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 bread bun	Containing insect	A letter of caution sent to vendor.
1 individual apple pie	Wasp embedded in fruit	A letter of caution sent to vendor.

4. Food Premises.

The following table summarises details of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, grouped in categories of trade carried on in them. It should be noted that, in many cases, other types of commodities are sold besides the principal trade:

Type of Premises	Number	Number of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	Number of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	Number of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Bakers	4	4	4	4
Ice Cream Manufacturer	1	1	1	1
Catering Premises	29	29	29	29
Butchers	29	29	29	29
Fish Shops:—				
Fried Fish	8	8	8	8
Wet Fish	2	2	2	2
Grocers	42	42	42	42
Greengrocers	10	10	10	10
General Dealers	57	57	57	57
Confectioners (Sweets)	10	10	10	10
Confectioners (Cakes)	11	11	11	11
Chemists	6	6	6	6
Licensed Premises	47	47	47	47
Off Licensed Premises	10	10	10	10

Inspections of all food premises, involving 409 visits and revisits, were made by the inspectorial staff under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, and any infringements found were forthwith brought to the notice of the persons concerned verbally or by the service of written informal notices.

The majority of traders, recognising their responsibilities and obligations to the general public, complied with the notices and a general improvement in food hygiene practices has been observed.

5. Food Sampling

The Durham County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and enforces the sampling provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department has kindly furnished the following information.

List of Samples taken in the Blaydon Urban District during the year ended 31st December, 1967

	54 Milk
	1 Aromat Seasoning
	1 Bread Sauce Mix
	1 Parsley Sauce Mix
	1 Super Chicken Noodle Soup
	1 Country Chicken and Leek Soup
Informal	1 Blackberries in Syrup
	1 Oxtail Soup
	1 Thick Farmhouse Vegetable Soup
Informal	1 Blackcurrant Crumble
	1 Dried Mint
	1 Ground Cinnamon
Informal	1 Beef and Vegetable Curry
Informal	1 Fried Hamburger Patties with Gravy
	1 Snowball
	1 Ostermilk Two
	1 Tea
Informal	1 Quinidine Tablets B.P.
Informal	1 Antepar Tablets
Informal	1 Seconal Sodium Capsules
	1 Quick Dried Cabbage
	1 Quick Dried Carrots
	1 Bilberry Pie Filling
Informal	1 Bilberry Pie Filling
Informal	1 Blackcurrant Pie Filling
Informal	1 Pure Cream
	1 Butter
	1 Lard
	1 Ground Rice
	1 Soup Mixture
	1 Strawberry Jam
	1 Raspberry Jam
Informal	1 Benimid Tablets B.P.
Informal	1 Kemadrin Tablets
Informal	1 Quinine Bisulphate Tablets B.P.

Informal	1 Pro-Banthine Tablets (15 mg.)
Informal	1 Cream Semolina and Chocolate Milk Pudding
Informal	1 Creamed Ground Rice Milk Pudding
Informal	1 Large Brown Loaf
	1 Coconut Drops
	1 Ginger Snaps
	1 Orange Drink
	1 Lemon Drink
	1 Strawberry Jam
	1 Pork Luncheon Meat
	2 Beer
Informal	1 Mysoline Tablets (250 mg.)
Informal	1 Avomine Tablets (25 mg.)
	1 Gooseberry Jam
	1 Blackcurrant Jam
	1 Morells Cherry Jam
Informal	1 Rice
Informal	1 Dried Vacuum Salt
Informal	1 Barley
Informal	1 Split Lentils
Informal	1 Sliced Carrots
Informal	1 Macedoine of Vegetables
Informal	1 Flour
	1 Rice
	1 Long Grain Patna Rice
	1 Instant Curry
	1 Quick Dried Crisp Cabbage
	1 Frankfurters
Informal	1 Glutton Rolls
Informal	1 Frozen Shepherds Pie
Informal	1 Phenobarbitone and Theobromine Tablets B.P.C.
Informal	1 Penicillin V Tablets
Informal	1 Pure Malt Vinegar
Informal	1 Cochineal
Informal	1 Vanilla Food Flavouring Compound
Informal	1 'Goldex' Egg Colour Liquid
Informal	1 Orange Jelly Crystals
	1 Golden Syrup
	1 Ice Cream
	1 Honey for Babies
	1 Meringue
	1 Gold Dressing
Informal	1 Meat Balls in White Sauce
	1 Liver Pate
	2 'Samosa'
Informal	1 Phenylbutazone Tablets B.P.
Informal	1 Promethazine Tablets B.P.
	1 Continental Creams
	1 Custard Creams
	1 Jaffa Cakes
	1 Chocolate Crunch
Informal	1 Cambridge Steaks in Rich Gravy
Informal	1 Pineapple Fritters
Informal	1 Apple Fritters

One sample of Meat Balls in White Sauce was found to be labelled not in accordance with the Labelling of Food Order, 1956, as amended. The retailer was advised to withdraw all remaining stock of the commodity.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

The following particulars show tests carried out under the Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

	<i>Number</i>	<i>Results</i>
(i) Number of egg pasteurisation plants in the District	Nil	Nil
(ii) Number of samples of liquid egg submitted to the Alpha-Amylase test and their results	10	All Satisfactory

The rehousing of occupants from unfit houses continued to receive high priority during the year, 147 families being moved to Council housing estates from houses subject to Orders confirmed under the Housing Act, 1957.

The dwellings listed below were inspected during the year and subsequently represented to the Council as unfit for habitation and incapable of being rendered fit as a reasonable cost. No proposals as to their future use were received from the owners concerned and the Council therefore made appropriate Orders under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Closing Orders.

- Prospect House, Victoria Garesfield.
- No. 65 Tyne Street, Blaydon.
- No. 75 Tyne Street, Blaydon.
- No. 18 Front Street Winlaton.

Compulsory Purchase Orders

Blaydon (Shibdon Street No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1965.

The rehousing of the occupiers and the work of demolition of the properties, subjected to this Order, progressed steadily during the year.

By the end of 1967 the site was almost cleared.

Blaydon (Shibdon Street No. 2) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1967.

This Order related to an area of approximately 4.3 acres containing 109 properties divided into 170 flats and 29 self-contained houses with 11 shops and 3 stores, and was made by the Council on the 21st February, 1967. The Council seek to secure clearance of all the buildings in the area and to acquire the land for industrial purposes.

A Public Local Inquiry was held on the 7th November, 1967 and confirmation of the Order by the Minister of Housing and Local Government was expected early in 1968.

Blaydon (Shibdon Street No. 3) Compulsory Purchase Order (proposed).

The area to which this proposed Order relates is approximately 2.34 acres and contains 63 properties divided into 120 flats, 2 self-contained houses and 1 shop. The Council propose to secure the clearance of all the buildings in the area and to acquire the land for industrial purposes.

Preliminary survey work in connection with this area was well advanced by the end of the year.

Closing and Demolition of Houses.

(a)	Number of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	144
(b)	Number of houses closed but not demolished as a result of formal action	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
(c)	Number of houses closed but not demolished as a result of informal action	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13

Reconditioning and Repair.

Number of houses made fit during the year by procedure under the Housing Acts or Public Health Acts:

(a) As a result of informal action	203
(b) By owners as a result of Statutory Notices	Nil
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

Overcrowding.

Complete statistics on overcrowding not being available, some indication of its extent may be deduced from the following figures supplied by the Housing Manager.

Number of Listed Applications for Council Houses

Classification	Totals	Not Overcrowded	Overcrowded	% of Overcrowded Premises
Families occupying premises as tenants	593	525	68	11.46%
Families occupying premises as sub-tenants	329	292	37	11.24%

Housing Applications from persons living in overcrowded conditions continued to be given high priority by the Allocation Committee and helped to alleviate the problem.

Building Progress.

At the end of 1967 the Council's Building Department was engaged on 4 Housing Schemes. Details are set out below:

Current Housing Schemes

Classification	Sanctioned	Completed
North Street and Back Lane	80	42
Lilley Terrace	21	21
Snook Hill	112	104
Bleach Green	52	—
Totals	265	167

Of the 265 houses sanctioned for building, 98 houses remained uncompleted. Thirty-six Council built houses from previous Schemes were also completed and 90 houses were constructed by private developers.

Sizes of Houses Built

<i>Constructed</i>	<i>1 Bedroom</i>	<i>2 Bedroomed</i>	<i>3 Bedroomed</i>	<i>4 Bedroomed</i>	<i>Total</i>
By Local Authority	99	48	54	—	201
By Private Developers	—	23	64	3	90

Number of Houses Erected and Occupied each year since 1955

Built	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	Total
By Local Authority	157	108	135	77	139	115	98	68	63	93	83	92	201	1,429
By Private Enterprise	55	71	75	62	144	36	108	158	170	254	213	248	90	1,684
Totals	212	179	210	139	283	151	206	226	233	347	296	340	291	3,113

Number of Habitable Houses in the District:

Blaydon Ward	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,746
Winlaton Ward	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,601
Rowlands Gill and High Spennard Ward	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,751
Chopwell Ward	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,813
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,911

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Steady progress under the above Acts was made during the year towards the preservation, with the aid of Improvement Grants, of structurally sound houses still with a substantial life ahead of them.

The number of applications for Standard Improvement Grants during the year was 130, being an increase of 34 over last year's figure of 96.

Details of work carried out in connection with Standard Improvement Grants are as follows:—

1. Number of Applications approved:														
(a) Owner-Occupiers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	75
(b) Tenanted Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	54
2. Number of Dwellings improved:														
(a) Owner-Occupiers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	57
(b) Tenanted Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10
3. Amount Paid in Grants	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£9,823 0s. 0d.
4. Average Grant per house	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£145 2s. 6d.

5. Number of amenities provided:

(a)	Fixed baths	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46
(b)	Showers	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
(c)	Wash-hand basins	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	54
(d)	Hot water supplies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	48
(e)	Water closets	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59
(f)	Food stores	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41

6. Details of Standard Improvement Grants since inception of Scheme in 1959:

(a)	Number of Applications received	.....	.....	.....	606
(b)	Number of Applications approved	.....	.....	.....	600
(c)	Number of dwelling-houses improved under Scheme	.....	.....	.....	421
(d)	Total amount paid in Grants	.....	.....	.....	£47,407

APPENDIX

Factories Act, 1961

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1967 for the Urban District of Blaydon in the County of Durham.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

Part I of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	4	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	119	33	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding outworkers' premises	—	—	—	—
Totals	123	37	3	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S 1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S 7):					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	3	—	1	—

Outworkers

There are 7 outworkers in the District, being an increase of 1 over last year, all engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

No cases of default under Section 133 occurred and no action was necessary under Section 134 regarding unwholesome premises.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

JOHN A. DRYDEN, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H., D.I.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WILSON JOYCE, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E. Joint Board.
 Cert. R.S.I. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

EDWARD RIDLEY, Cert. Public Health Inspectors Joint Board.
 Cert. R.S.H. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
 Cert. R.S.H. Smoke Inspector.

ROBERT GRAY, Diploma of Public Health Inspectors Education Board.
 Cert. R.S.H. Smoke Inspector.
 (*Appointed March 1967*).

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

NORMAN REYNOLDS

DEPARTMENTAL CLERKS

MARGARET M. YOUNG

HAZEL BARKER (*Appointed March 1967*).

